• An assumed cost of $600 per dog for airlines to fly abandoned dogs back to their countries of origin.49

The costs associated with an importation of a dog with CRVV includes health department staff time for the public health response, payments for post-exposure prophylaxis treatment for exposed persons, and the costs associated with quarantining or euthanizing exposed animals. CDC estimated the response cost per imported dog with CRVV to be $315,682, range $215,386 to $508,879 based on the following assumptions:

- An estimate of 800 hours of health department staff time per importation.50
- The public health response time is split evenly among veterinarians (code 29–1131, $50.39 per hour), epidemiologists (19–1041, $37.64 per hour), registered nurses (29–1141, $37.24 per hour), licensed practical nurses (29–2061, $23.32 per hour), and office and administrative assistants (43–0000, $19.73 per hour).51 52 These wage estimates are multiplied by 2 to account for non-wage benefits and overhead.
- An average of 25 (range: 16–44) individuals will require post-exposure prophylaxis because of exposure to the dog with CRVV.53 54
- The average cost of post-exposure prophylaxis was estimated to be $9,290.55
- An estimated 29.6 animals would need to be quarantined or euthanized due to exposure to the dog with CRVV.
- Each exposed animal would incur economic costs of $1,000 for quarantine or euthanasia.56

V. Terms of This Notice

Therefore, pursuant to 42 CFR 71.51(e) and 42 CFR 71.63, and subject to the terms of this notice, CDC hereby excludes the entry and suspends the importation of dogs from high-risk countries, including dogs from low-risk and CRVV-free countries if the dogs have been present in a high-risk country in the previous six months.

Additionally, under 42 CFR 71.63, CDC finds that CRVV exists in countries designated as high-risk countries and that, if reintroduced into the United States, CRVV would threaten the public health of the United States. The continued entry of dogs from high-risk countries in the context of the current limited CDC resources and personnel diverted to respond to COVID–19 further increases the risk that CRVV may be reintroduced, transmitted, or spread into the United States. CDC has coordinated in advance with other federal agencies as necessary to implement and enforce this notice.

This notice is not a rule within the meaning of the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”), but rather notice of an emergency action taken under the existing authority of 42 CFR 71.51(e) and 42 CFR 71.63. In the event that this notice qualifies as a rule under the APA, notice and comment and a delay in effective date are not required because there is good cause to dispense with prior public notice and the opportunity to comment on this notice. Considering the public health emergency caused by the virus associated with COVID–19, the ongoing diversion of public health resources and personnel to respond to the pandemic, and the risk of reintroduction of CRVV from dogs being imported from high-risk countries, it would be impractical and contrary to the public’s health, and by extension the public’s interest, to delay the issuance and effective date of this notice.

Effective July 14, 2021: Pursuant to the exception, dogs from high-risk countries must be 6 months of age to be imported and fully vaccinated against rabies, and eligible importers may only import up to 3 dogs upon receipt of advanced written approval from the CDC. Importers wishing to import dogs from high-risk countries should:

1. Submit a request for advanced written permission (i.e., Application for a Permit to Import a Dog Inadequately Immunized Against Rabies, approved under OMB Control Number 0920–0134 Foreign Quarantine Regulations (exp. 03/31/2022), or as revised)) at least 30 days prior to planned importation in the United States.

2. Submit all documentation listed above in Section III Advanced Written Approval.

The request for advance written permission must include proof of the dog’s identity including pictures of the dogs’ teeth, other descriptive details, proof of rabies vaccination, and microchip information. Dogs arriving from high-risk countries must enter the United States at a port of entry with a live animal care facility with a CBP-issued FIRMS code that can provide accommodation that meets the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal Welfare Act standards.

This temporary suspension will remain in place until the earliest of (1) the expiration of the Secretary of Health and Human Services’ declaration that COVID–19 constitutes a public health emergency; (2) the CDC Director rescinds or modifies this suspension based on specific public health or other considerations; or (3) 360 days from publication in the Federal Register.

Dated: June 9, 2021.

Sandra Cashman,
Executive Secretary, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on CMS’ intention to collect information from the public. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (the PRA), federal agencies are required to publish notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information (including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information) and to allow 60 days for public comment on the proposed action. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding our burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including the necessity and utility of the proposed
information collection for the proper performance of the agency’s functions, the accuracy of the estimated burden, ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden. 

DATES: Comments must be received by August 16, 2021.

ADDRESSES: When commenting, please reference the document identifier or OMB control number. To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must be submitted in any one of the following ways:

1. Electronically. You may send your comments electronically to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for “Comment or Submission” or “More Search Options” to find the information collection document(s) that are accepting comments.

2. By regular mail. You may mail written comments to the following address: CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development, Attention: Document Identifier/OMB Control Number: ____, Room C4–26–05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244–1850.

To obtain copies of a supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed collection(s) summarized in this notice, you may mail your request using one of following:


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
William N. Parham at (410) 786–4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Contents

This notice sets out a summary of the use and burden associated with the following information collections. More detailed information can be found in each collection’s supporting statement and associated materials (see ADDRESSES).

CMS–10494 Exchange Functions: Standards for Navigators and Non-Navigator Assistance Personnel–CAC
CMS–10773 Non-Quantitative Treatment Limitation Analyses and Compliance Under MHPAEA

Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. The term “collection of information” is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires federal agencies to publish a 60-day notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, CMS is publishing this notice.

Information Collection

1. Type of Information Collection Request: Revision of a currently approved collection; Title of Information Collection: Exchange Functions: Standards for Navigators and Non-Navigator Assistance Personnel–CAC; Use: Section 1321(a)(1) of the Affordable Care Act directs and authorizes the Secretary to issue regulations setting standards for meeting the requirements under title I of the Affordable Care Act, with respect to, among other things, the establishment and operation of Exchanges. Pursuant to this authority, regulations establishing the certified application counselor program have been finalized at 45 CFR 155.225. In accordance with 155.225(d)(1) and (7), certified application counselors in all Exchanges are required to be initially certified and recertified on at least an annual basis and successfully complete Exchange required training. Form Number: CMS–10494 (OMB control number: 0938–1205); Frequency: On Occasion; Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Governments, Private Sector (not-for-profit institutions); individuals or households; Number of Respondents: 278,072; Total Annual Responses: 278,072; Total Annual Hours: 918,024. For policy questions regarding this collection contact Evonne Muoneke at 301–492–4402.

2. Type of Information Collection Request: Extension of a currently approved collection; Title of Information Collection: Non-Quantitative Treatment Limitation Analyses and Compliance Under MHPAEA; Use: The Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (MHPAEA) (Pub. L. 110–343) generally requires that group health plans and group health insurance issuers offering mental health and substance use disorder (MH/SUD) benefits in addition to medical and surgical (med/surg) benefits do not apply any more restrictive financial requirements (e.g., co-pays, deductibles) and/or treatment limitations (e.g., visit limits, prior authorizations) to MH/SUD benefits than those requirements and/or limitations applied to substantially all med/surg benefits. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111–148, was enacted on March 23, 2010, and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111–152, was enacted on March 30, 2010. These statutes are collectively known as the “Affordable Care Act.” The Affordable Care Act extended MHPAEA to apply to the individual health insurance market. MHPAEA does not apply directly to small group health plans, although its requirements are applied indirectly in connection with the Affordable Care Act’s essential health benefit requirements. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (the Appropriations Act) was enacted on December 27, 2020. The Appropriations Act amended MHPAEA, in part, by expressly requiring group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage that offer both med/surg benefits and MH/SUD benefits and that impose non-quantitative treatment limitations (NQTLs) on MH/SUD benefits to perform and document their comparative analyses of the design and application of NQTLs. Further, beginning 45 days after the date of enactment of the Appropriations Act, group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage must make their comparative analyses available to the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and the Treasury or applicable state authorities, upon request. The Secretary of HHS is required to request the comparative analyses for plans that involve potential violations of MHPAEA or complaints regarding noncompliance with MHPAEA that concern NQTLs and any other instances in which the Secretary determines appropriate. The Appropriations Act also requires the Secretary of HHS to submit to Congress, and make publicly available, an annual report on the conclusions of the reviews. Form Number: CMS–10773 (OMB control number: 0938–1393); Frequency: On Occasion; Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Governments, Private Sector; Number of Respondents: 250,137; Total Annual Responses: 36,461; Total Annual Hours: 1,013,184. (For policy questions
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute on Drug Abuse; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute on Drug Abuse and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; NIAID Investigator Initiated Program Project Applications (F01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed).

Date: July 7, 2021.

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Room 3F30A, Rockville, MD 20892 (Virtual Meeting).

Contact Person: Ellen S. Buczko, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Branch, Division of Extramural Research, National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH, 301 North Stonestreet Avenue, Room 09C62, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301–451–2020, hoshawb@mail.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.867, Vision Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: June 10, 2021.

Melanie J. Pantoja, Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2021–12625 Filed 6–15–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Eye Institute Special Emphasis Panel; BRAIN Initiative: New Concepts and Early-Stage Research for Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System (R21).

Date: July 20, 2021.

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health, Division of Extramural Research, 6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 3400, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Virtual Meeting).

Contact Person: Brian Hoshaw, Ph.D., Designated Federal Official, National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health, Division of Extramural Research, 6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 3400, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301–451–2020, hoshawb@mail.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.867, Vision Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: June 10, 2021.

Tyeshia M. Roberson,
Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2021–12622 Filed 6–15–21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Eye Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.